

REMARKS

The allowed claims have been written in independent form, and all remaining claims depend from those independent claims.

In particular, claims 14, 15, 16, 17 and 19 have been combined as amended claim 14 (claim 19 having been indicated as allowable).

Claims 14, 15, 16, 17, 21 and 22 have been combined as new claim 25 (claim 22 having been indicated as allowable).

Of the remaining dependent claims, claim 20, previously dependent from non-canceled claim 19, has been made dependent from claim 14. Dependent claim 24 remains in its prior form as dependent from claim 14.

The only new dependent claim is claim 26 which depends from claim 25. That claim is identical to claim 24.

Accordingly, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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By


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Marked Copy: Claims 14 and 20 As Amended

14. (Amended) An apparatus for producing heat-insulating composite paper containers comprising:

an oven producing currents of heated air;

a conveyor for conveying a plurality of fabricated containers through the oven to cause a foamable material to foam on a surface of each fabricated container, the conveyor including a plurality of spaced apart holders for supporting respective fabricated containers, each holder configured for supporting its respective fabricated container in a loose manner, enabling the fabricated container to freely wobble relative to its holder under the influence of conveyor vibration and air currents within the oven, while preventing the fabricated container from making contact with any other fabricated container within the oven;

wherein each holder supports its respective container in a substantially vertical orientation;

wherein each of the holders includes an upstanding portion extending through a mouth of a respective fabricated container;

wherein each holder supports its respective fabricated container in an inverted state, with the upstanding portion extending upwardly through the mouth of the fabricated container;

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wherein each holder further includes a generally horizontal shoulder portion located below an upper end of each upstanding portion for directly supporting a rim of the mouth of a respective fabricated container.

20. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim [19] 14 wherein the upright portion includes an upper end spaced below the bottom panel of its associated fabricated container when the mouth of the fabricated container rests upon the shoulder portion.